

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claims 8, 14, 21 and 24-39

Please amend the claims as follows:

6. (Thrice Amended) An air conditioner for a vehicle having a passenger compartment, said air conditioner comprising:

a case forming an air passage through which air is blown into the passenger compartment;

a blower for blowing air in said case into the passenger compartment;

a cooling heat exchanger for cooling air blown from said blower, said cooling heat exchanger being disposed in said case to have a lower space in said case under a bottom surface of said cooling heat exchanger to be slightly inclined relative to a horizontal surface by an inclination angle;


a heating heat exchanger for heating air from said cooling heat exchanger so that the temperature of air to be blow into the passenger compartment is conditioned, said heating heat exchanger being disposed approximately horizontally at an upper side of said cooling heat exchanger; and

a mode switching member for selectively switching flow direction of the conditioned air blown into the passenger compartment, wherein

said cooling heat exchanger includes a plurality of tubes through which refrigerant flows, and a plurality of corrugated fins disposed between adjacent said tubes;

said blower is offset from said cooling heat exchanger to a side of said cooling heat exchanger;

said bottom surface of said cooling heat exchanger has a tilted upper end portion and a tilted lower end portion;

 said case has a case portion defining an air introduction port from which air ^{blown}~~blow~~ by said blower is introduced into said lower space, said air introduction port having a top end and a bottom end in a vertical direction; and

said top end of said air introduction port is positioned above said tilted lower end portion of said cooling heat exchanger, and said bottom end of said air introduction port is positioned under said tilted upper end portion of said cooling heat exchanger, in the vertical direction.

22. (Amended) An air conditioner according to claim 6, wherein:

said blower includes a centrifugal fan including a top and a bottom; and

said tilted lower end portion of said cooling heat exchanger is positioned lower than said top of said centrifugal fan.

23. (Amended) An air conditioner according to claim 6, wherein:

said case includes a scroll casing;

said blower includes a centrifugal fan disposed within said scroll casing; and

said scroll casing has a bell mouth shaped inlet disposed at the top of said scroll casing, from which air is drawn therein.

Please add the following new claims:

Rule 126

⁴⁰
~~44~~. (New) An air conditioner for a vehicle having a passenger compartment, said air conditioner comprising:

a case forming an air passage through which air is blown into the passenger compartment;

a blower for blowing air in said case into the passenger compartment;

a cooling heat exchanger for cooling air blown from said blower, said cooling heat exchanger being disposed in said case to have a lower space in said case under a bottom surface of said cooling heat exchanger; and

a heating heat exchanger for heating air from said cooling heat exchanger so that the temperature of air to be blown into the passenger compartment is conditioned, said heating heat exchanger being disposed approximately horizontally at an upper side of said cooling heat exchanger, wherein

said cooling heat exchanger includes a plurality of tubes arranged in a predetermined direction through which refrigerant flows, and a plurality of corrugated fins disposed between adjacent said tubes;

said blower is offset from said cooling heat exchanger to a side of said cooling heat exchanger;

said case has a case portion defining an air introduction port from which air blown by said blower is introduced into said lower space, said air introduction port having a top end and a bottom end in a vertical direction;

said cooling heat exchanger is disposed such that air blown by said blower is introduced into said air introduction port and flows in said lower space along a substantial portion of the bottom surface of the cooling heat exchanger for promoting a flow of condensate in the predetermined direction of the plurality of tubes.

Rule 12b
⁴¹
~~48~~. (New) An air conditioner according to claim ⁴⁰~~44~~, wherein the cooling heat exchanger is slightly inclined relative to a horizontal surface by an inclination angle.

⁴²
~~46~~. (New) An air conditioner according to claim ⁴¹~~45~~, wherein:
said bottom surface of said cooling heat exchanger has a tilted upper end portion and a tilted lower end portion; and

said top end of the air introduction port is positioned above said tilted lower end portion of said cooling heat exchanger, and said bottom end of said air introduction port is positioned under said tilted upper end portion of said cooling heat exchanger, in the vertical direction.--